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No Sammy or Frank here, just Yoda

3-1-2009 - State Treasurer Dean Martin is Arizona's chief financial officer, responsible for the custody and management of state and local monies, and for the state's investment portfolio.

Martin, a Republican, served in the state Legislature as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and on the Appropriations and Commerce committees. He built a record of advocacy for public records access in the Legislature.

And he shares a famous name with the legendary Rat Pack member who, along with Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jr., was the essence of cool. We asked Martin — the state treasurer — a few questions pertinent to sharing a name with the late singer, actor and TV variety show host.

STAR: How many times has someone started singing "Everybody Loves Somebody" when you walk in the room?

MARTIN: I have lost count, I usually hear the chorus once every other week.

STAR: Which is your favorite of the late Dean Martin's movies?

MARTIN: "Rio Bravo" — John Wayne and Dean Martin stand against the corrupt town tyrant. It's a Western classic. (And it was filmed at Old Tucson!)

STAR: Singer/actor Martin was known for always having a highball in his hand. What's your beverage of choice?

MARTIN: Cherry Coke.

STAR: You and your wife of 13 years, Kerry, are expecting your first child in May. What are your name choices?

MARTIN: We know it's going to be a boy, but we have not made a final decision on a name, although I can tell you we have definitely ruled out Ricky or Steve!

STAR: Are you the essence of cool? If not, who is?

MARTIN: Ummm. No . . . Even the cool \$502 million I earned for taxpayers as Treasurer could not put me on the cool list!

Who is cool: Yoda.

Information from: The Arizona Daily Star, <http://www.azstarnet.com>